

Jamesville, North Carolina for being honored by the U.S. Department of Education as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School.

Since 1982, the Department of Education has recognized elementary, middle, and high schools whose students excelled or showed significant academic improvement on state or national assessments with the National Blue Ribbon School designation. This year, Jamesville Middle School is being recognized, along with 268 other schools nationwide, for its academic performance.

During the last two school years, students from Jamesville Middle School demonstrated academic excellence—earning performance composites of 91 and 93 percent on the North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests. These scores have distinguished Jamesville Middle School as one of the top five schools within a six county region in eastern North Carolina. As a result, the North Carolina State Board of Education and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction named Jamesville Middle School an Honor School of Excellence two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the students, faculty, and parents of Jamesville Middle School for their commitment to academic excellence. Quality primary and secondary education are essential for academic success and lifelong achievement. The Blue Ribbon School designation is a great testament to the Jamesville community's commitment to prepare their children for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Jamesville Middle School's recognition as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon school.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN E. BARNES, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of State Representative John E. Barnes, Jr. of Ohio's 12th House District.

Representative Barnes is the son of former Cleveland City Councilman, John E. Barnes, Sr. who instilled in him a sense of value of service to others. Representative Barnes received a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University, professional education from Harvard University, an Honorary Doctorate from Chancellor University, and was a student at the Katholieke University in Leuven, Belgium.

Representative Baker first served as a State Legislator from 1999 to 2002, during which he participated as a member of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus' official visit to South Africa in 2001. He was also responsible for bringing millions of dollars to his district to support economic development and job creation initiatives. As a State Representative for the second time, he now sits on the Ways and Means; Health and Aging; and Economic and Small Business Committees.

In addition to his place in the Ohio House of Representatives, Representative Barnes has held positions as Chairman of the Ohio Commission on African American Males, a Cabinet-Level Director in the Administration of

Former Cleveland Mayor, Jane L. Campbell, Director of Cleveland's Department of Community Relations, and a Senior Tax Auditor and Investigator for the City's Division of Taxation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative John Barnes, Jr.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SACAGAWEA

HON. KRISTIL L. NOEM

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the reported death of Sacagawea, and to celebrate the contributions she made to our country's development. She was only around 25 years old at the time of her death, but she accomplished much in her short life.

Sacagawea is remembered for guiding Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, who were leading the Corps of North Western Discovery Expedition commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson in the early 1800s. This journey took them from Missouri to the far reaches of the Pacific Northwest, and back again.

Sacagawea was born around 1788 and was the daughter of a Shoshone chief. She was later kidnapped by an enemy of her tribe and married by the time she was only thirteen to a French-Canadian fur trapper. In 1804, she was commissioned by Lewis and Clark with her husband to serve as interpreters and joined the expedition with her newborn baby during the years 1804–1806. They led the expedition westward thousands of miles along the Missouri River and helped Lewis and Clark reach the Pacific Ocean before returning east.

Unfortunately, her life story came to an abrupt end when Sacagawea was reported to have died on December 20, 1812 near present day Kenel, South Dakota. Despite her untimely death, her contributions to our nation and rich cultural heritage continue to live on to this day. We commemorate her life on this year that marks the bicentennial anniversary of her reported death.

In the following weeks, Encounters of the Prairie, the South Dakota Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, will meet in order to commemorate the anniversary of the reported death of Sacagawea. I admire her unique and inspiring heritage and her role in the history of this country. Sacagawea walked thousands of miles carrying her infant on her back, all the while using her skills as a guide and as an interpreter. After 200 years, Sacagawea is remembered for her abilities, perseverance, and impacts on this country and will continue to inspire us all.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE NICKIE J. ANTONIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of State Representative Nickie J. Antonio of Ohio's 13th House District.

Prior to public service, Representative Antonio was a former special education teacher, an Executive Director at a non-profit for women's drug and alcohol treatment programs, an administrator for a multi-county HIV/AIDS group, an adjunct professor at Cleveland State University in Women's Studies and Public Administration. She served over two decades as a consultant to various non-profits and government agencies in Northeast Ohio.

In 2005, Representative Antonio was elected to the Lakewood City Council where she sat for a total of five years, chairing the Economic Development; Housing; and Human Services committees and also sat as a member of the Public Works and Finance Committees. While a Lakewood council representative, she served on the Lakewood Hospital Board for four years, fought to retain funding for senior programs and services, and was a founder of the Lakewood Relations Advisory Commission which is aimed at promoting citizen human rights and expanding the scope of existing intimidation laws.

As a State Representative, Antonio sits on the Commerce and Labor; Education, Health, and Aging; and Ohio House Committees. She also earned an appointment to the Joint Legislative Committee for Long-Term Care Services and Supports as well as the Commission on Developmental Disabilities. She serves as a policy co-chair for the Ohio Women's Legislative Caucus, is a member of the Ohio House Progressive Caucus, and is a past chair of both the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Event and the Cuyahoga Democratic Women's Caucus where she continues to sit on the steering committee.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Nickie J. Antonio.

RECOGNIZING THE C.A.S.T. FOR KIDS FOUNDATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the "Catch a Special Thrill" (C.A.S.T.) for Kids Foundation, based in Renton, Washington. Since 1991, this organization and its founder Jim Owens have worked to partner volunteers who love fishing with people with special needs for fishing excursions. Today, the foundation hosts three different programs; C.A.S.T. for Kids, the Fishing Kids Program, and the Take a Warrior Fishing Program.

The C.A.S.T. for Kids Program held its first event at Banks Lake in Eastern Washington in 1992. Today, events are held in 22 States across the country. This program helps children with special needs and their caretakers

experience the outdoors and spend time on the water. This program also helps educate the community about the abilities of children with special needs and the value of providing this type of experience to those young individuals.

The Fishing Kids Program was established in 1996 to give young people living in urban areas exposure to fishing. Expert anglers volunteer to teach children fishing techniques, angler ethics, fish identification and water safety—giving young people the skills they need to begin a lifelong hobby. Kids also leave the program with a rod and reel to keep and continue using.

In 2011, the foundation launched a new program called Take a Warrior Fishing. The first event was held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. This program connects transitioning military personnel and their families to increase interactions and appreciation for the outdoors. This also gives returning servicemembers a therapeutic outlet by spending time on the water and in the outdoors.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work of the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation. Their creative solutions to helping kids and servicemembers by introducing them to the sport of fishing helps a wide variety of special needs individuals in our communities.

CELEBRATING MACEDONIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Macedonian Community in honor of their Independence Day. On September 8, 1991, the Republic of Macedonia voted to officially gain its independence from the former Yugoslavia beginning a new era in the proud history of the Macedonian people. By approving the referendum, the people decided that it was time for their country to forge its own path. This 21st anniversary of their independence provides us all an opportunity to recognize the Macedonian Community's significant contributions both within our country, and throughout the world.

Macedonia has been a dedicated ally to the United States in the Global War on Terror and has done much to promote liberty and democracy throughout Europe and the world. With American cooperation and support, Macedonia has emerged as a center of multi-cultural peace and stability in a part of the world known for strife and ethnic tensions. Their staunch support of freedom makes them a model for other countries in the region, and their commitment to a U.S.-Macedonia relationship will lead to a richer, more prosperous future for citizens of both countries.

As a way to recognize this partnership, I started the first Congressional Caucus on Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans. This Caucus is a bipartisan group of members of Congress dedicated to maintaining and strengthening a positive and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and the Republic of Macedonia, as well as advocating for the concerns and interests of the Macedonian community in the United States.

Michigan's 10th District has one of the largest populations of Macedonian-Americans in

the Nation. I would like to acknowledge their contributions to our District and our State, and I look forward to continuing that relationship as we deal with the problems facing our great Nation.

Again, congratulations to the Macedonian community for their achievements as we commemorate the anniversary of their independence.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE NAN BAKER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of State Representative Nan Baker of Ohio's 16th House District.

Before joining the Ohio General Assembly, Representative Baker was a member of the Westlake Board of Education and served three terms as Westlake City Councilwoman. She has been an active member of the West Shore Chamber of Commerce for 18 years where she served two years as president and currently serves on the Board of Trustees. She has continued to be an avid business owner for over 30 years while remaining active in her community. She is involved with the Community Advisory Board for St. John Medical Center, Westlake Kiwanis, Westlake/North Olmsted League of Women Voters, Westside Professional Women's Connection and the Westlake/Westshore Arts Council.

Over the years, Representative Baker's hard work and dedication to public service has earned her several honors and awards including the 1999 Honored Woman of the Year awarded by the Westlake/North Olmsted League of Women Voters, a Certificate of Special U.S. Congressional Recognition, the Cleveland State University David C. Sweet Award given to alumni for distinguished elected service, the Hugh Dawson Award given by the West Shore Chamber of Commerce for outstanding service to the business community, and in 2009, the Chuck McDonald Council of Smaller Enterprises advocacy Award for her service and dedication to small business.

Currently as a State Representative in her second term, Representative Baker chairs the Economic and Small Business Development committee and is a member of the Education; Local Government; and Ways and Means Committees.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Nan Baker.

IN HONOR OF THE SIX SIKH AMERICANS SLAIN ON AUGUST 5, 2012

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of the six Sikh Americans that were shot and killed in a senseless act of violence on August 5, 2012.

Bhai Seeta Singh, Bhai Parkash Singh, Bhai Ranjit Singh, Satwant Singh Kaleka, Subegh

Singh, and Parmjit Kaur Toor were slain without regard to human dignity or the sanctity of life. The people of my district and Americans across the Nation stand in solidarity with the Sikh community. Violence against any group is unacceptable, and I offer my prayers and condolences to the families of the victims in Wisconsin and to Sikhs everywhere.

Hate, particularly hate speech, is all too common in today's world. The Sikh community's unified and peaceful response to this hateful attack demonstrates the resilient spirit of the Sikh people. They have shown the world their love of peace, and it is my hope that we can all learn from the Sikh community in the wake of this tragedy.

In this great country, there is no room for the prejudice, intolerance and stereotypes that perpetuate hate acts and hate language. I stand beside the Sikh people as they continue to have the strength and dignity to be proud of their long heritage. To show such grace when faced with such a senseless act of violence is a true testament of their honorable culture.

I had the unique privilege to stand vigil with the Sikh people from my district. To join together in the face of such animosity was an honor. I commend the Sikh community in my district and around the country for their courageous response.

It is for these reasons that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of the six Sikh Americans who were killed on August 5, 2012.

HONORING POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Point Reyes National Seashore in Marin County, CA, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Millions of people—and flora and fauna—have benefitted from the law President John F. Kennedy signed on September 13, 1962, “to save and preserve, for the purpose of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped.”

Celebrating with the theme of A Natural Sanctuary, A Human Haven, Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) truly embodies these values. From its pristine beaches and forests to its ranches and grasslands, the area provides recreational and cultural resources as well as habitat for a wide variety of species. And nearly one-third of known marine mammal species feed in the waters just off the park's coast.

The Point Reyes peninsula has an unusually rich history. Coast Miwok Indians inhabited the peninsula 500 years ago, and, in 1579, Sir Francis Drake and his crew became the first Europeans to meet the Miwoks when they stopped to replenish water and supplies. The survivors of a shipwrecked Manila galleon came ashore a few decades later, foreshadowing a history of shipwrecks that led to the establishment of dramatic lighthouses and lifesaving stations that exist today. In the 19th century, ranchos were developed by Mexican land grantees, and ranching continues today